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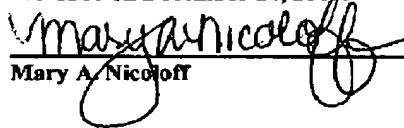
DEC 14 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Daniel Edward Bowen III, et al )  
For: A PROCESS FOR PREPARING A )  
SILICA/RUBBER BLEND WHICH INCLUDES )  
DISPERSING SILICA, A SILICA COUPLING )  
AGENT, AND A LOW MOLECULAR WEIGHT )  
END-GROUP FUNCTIONALIZED DIENE )  
RUBBER THROUGHOUT A CEMENT OF A )  
CONVENTIONAL RUBBERY POLYMER, AND )  
SUBSEQUENTLY RECOVERING THE )  
SILICA/RUBBER BLEND FROM AN ORGANIC )  
SOLVENT )  
Serial No. 10/630,022 )  
Filed: July 30, 2003 )

Docket No. DN2003-127  
Art Unit: 1712  
Examiner: Costales, Shruti S.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office to facsimile number (571)  
273-8300 on December 14, 2005.

  
Mary A. Nicoloff

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL - EXPEDITED ACTION REQUESTED**

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Rejection mailed on November 8, 2005, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-identified patent application without prejudice as follows: